

About the Tower

Where will the tower be located?

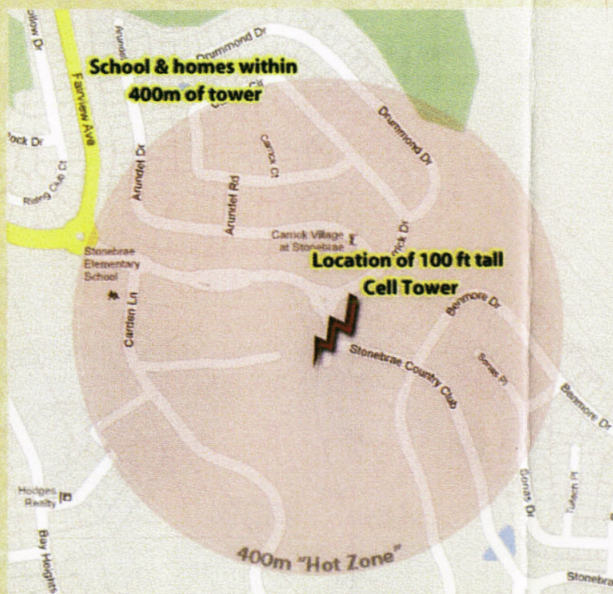
Verizon and Stonebrae feel that the best location is next to the golf course along the Carden property line in front of the community. The tower will be located near the trees belonging to the Carden property by the roundabout (see map). You'll see the tower everyday you leave and return to the community. The school and most of the community is within 400m of this tower site.

Will this tarnish the views of the Bay?

Yes, the tower will be situated in the front of the community and will negatively impact the scenery of the area. Many homeowners with views of the Bay will see this 100 foot tall tower from their homes.

Why is the tower 100 feet tall?

A Verizon engineer testified that the land rises about 100 feet as you climb the hill to the country club. Because the tower is being placed near the school and community, Verizon says the tower needs to be 100 feet tall in order to provide adequate coverage for the private country club at the top of the hill one mile away.



Families United
AGAINST THE STONEBRAE CELL TOWER

Let's move the tower to a safer place.

Why did Verizon and Stonebrae pick this location?

It is not clear why Verizon and Stonebrae L.P. have selected this location given that it is the closest possible location owned by Stonebrae L.P. to the school and the community (aside from their office). Verizon was initially concerned about the tower interfering with other towers so they liked the idea of having some trees to shield the tower from the West and North. However, Verizon has developed new shielding technology that will be built into the tower to mitigate "interference" problems and thus not require vegetation to shield the tower. In addition, the City requires that Stonebrae needs to plant pine trees behind the tower so they don't have to depend on the adjacent property owners trees.

If this is indeed the case, then why does Verizon still believe that this spot is the "best" location out of the other locations on Stonebrae property? The tower no longer needs trees behind it because it will have its own shielding, and the City is requiring Stonebrae to plant its own grove of trees. As a result, one could conclude that this tower could be placed anywhere else on Stonebrae property and still be equally effective without "interference" problems. Stonebrae has many acres of property here — almost any other place on their property would be farther from the school and community and out of sight of the homeowners.

Where are the other possible locations for this tower?

Verizon evaluated multiple sites on Stonebrae property. The selected site is the closest to the school and community and all the other proposed sites are farther away. Viable alternative options also include co-localizing the antennas with one of two existing towers in this region, such as the one on Fairview Ave. or with one of many PG&E towers in this region.

What about aesthetics?

Aesthetics is also a big issue. As we already have multiple power lines and towers along the back side of the community, we really don't need more towers in the front of the community. People presumably move up here for the scenery, and the last thing they want to see is a cell tower out their window and everyday as they drive in and out of the community. A 100 foot tall cell tower tarnishing the view may also have a negative effect on property values.

FCC safety guidelines are out-of-date.

FCC safety guidelines for cell towers are based on "thermal standards," not health effects. They were established in 1982 are now considered too high. In fact, the United States has the highest level for "acceptable" radiation for cell towers in the world. Even China, has a standard that is over 100 times lower than that in the US.

How can I help?

Sign the online petition to voice your concern.

The goal of the petition is to have Verizon and Stonebrae move the location of the tower to one of the 3 other proposed locations. We already have multiple towers and electrical lines in the back of the community, there is no reason to put another tower in the front of the community tarnishing the views and scenery. On top of that, the current location is too close to the school and community.

Online petition:
<http://tiny.cc/m599w>

Find us on Facebook:
<http://tiny.cc/1u9zz>

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Why did this project get approved by the City?

Most likely it was because the hearings for this project were poorly attended by the public. No one from Stonebrae HOA or Stonebrae Elementary school was present. Owners of the Carden property with a few residents in adjoining neighborhoods attended and expressed disapproval for many reasons including aesthetics, illogical location, and potential health effects.

Stonebrae L.P. also effectively lobbied for the project. Steve Miller, Executive Director of Stonebrae L.P., had private meetings with three of the six voting commissioners prior to the final hearing. At the hearing, he emphasized that this cell tower would improve "public safety" for the school. Commissioner Al Mendell ultimately made the motion at the meeting to approve the project because "he has a few buddies who play golf on the golf course" who complain about lack of cell reception and he would vote "yes" to improve "public safety." We all want "public safety", but a cell tower does not need to be next to the school to do so. Did you know that Steve Miller is supporting Al Mendell's 2012 election campaign for City Council?

Did you know that Verizon is building a 100 foot tall cell tower next to the school and residences?

A 100 foot tall cell tower will be located within 400 m of the school and community next to the Carden property line. It includes a diesel generator and storage site for 200 gallons of fuel.

Did you know that there is an increased risk of cancer living next to a cell tower?

Scientists have found a 4-fold increase in cancer in people living within 400m of a cell tower. The World Health Organization (WHO) has recently declared that cell signals are a possible cause for cancer.

Did you know that children are more vulnerable than adults to RF radiation?

Researchers have found that people living near cell towers develop rare tumors, disproportionately affecting women and children.

Why didn't I hear of this before?

The City of Hayward is only required to notify homes within 300 feet of the project – only one home is within this radius, the owners of the Carden Property.

What can we do about this?

Sign the online petition to voice your concern. There is plenty of open space here and we'd like Verizon to move the tower to a safer location, away from the school and residences and out-of-sight of the homeowners.



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Let's take a precautionary approach.

Our health is at risk.

Peer-reviewed studies have documented links between proximity to cell towers and a variety of health effects including migraines, tinnitus, slowed motor skills, insomnia, memory loss, dizziness, behavioral and cognitive impairments, at very low frequencies. In 2005, the International Association of Fire Fighters adopted a resolution opposing the installation of cell towers on fire station roofs after fire fighters reported many such symptoms. Medical studies have linked exposure to EMF RF radiation to an elevated risk of cancer, including brain tumors, leukemia, breast cancer, and lymphoma.

Increased risk of cancer living near cell towers.

Only a handful of research studies have looked into health issues related to cell towers. Most recently, A British study recently showed that kids born on an average of 1100 meters (over 1/2 mile) from a cell tower have no health issues.

However, what happens if you live closer than 1100 meters from a tower? In this case, there are only a few peer-reviewed medical studies that have looked into this, but all have found a statistically significant increase in risk of cancer near cell towers. Specifically, people living within 400 meters of a tower have a 4-fold increase in cancer compared to those living farther away. The reference for one of these studies is: *Wolf R, Wolf D. Increased incidence of cancer near a cell-phone transmitter station. Int J Cancer Prevention 2004;1:123-128.* Other studies report similar results.

How do cell towers cause cancer?

Epidemiological studies show cases of cancer clustering around cell towers. What is the underlying biological cause? Some early research has shown that even low RF radiation can cause DNA strand damage. Much research still needs to be performed, but because early research is showing a worrisome trend, we believe it's important to take a precautionary approach. Let's move the tower somewhere that will pose no risk to our health.

What's our plan for the tower?

We've started a petition to convince Stonebrae, L.P. and Verizon to move this tower to a safer location. The goal of the petition is to have Verizon and Stonebrae move the location of the tower to one of the 3 other proposed locations farther than 400m from the school and community. We already have multiple towers and electrical lines in the back of the community; there is no reason to put another tower in the front of the community tarnishing the views and scenery. On top of that, the current location is too close to the school and community.

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